STRATEGIC REVIEW OF THE MEADOWLANDS MASTER PLAN 2004 2005





New Jersey Meadowlands Commission



Governor Jon S. Corzine

New Jersey Meadowlands Commission

> Chair Susan Bass Levin

Commissioners

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Message from the Chair

Commissioners,

It is with great pleasure that, thanks to the support of Governor Jon Corzine, I am able to mark my return to the leadership of this remarkable Board by reporting to you that the Meadowlands Master Plan which we joined to create in January 2004 has been successfully implemented over the past two years and we can look forward to its further success in coming years.

As required by the Master Plan, this Strategic Review and future annual editions measure our progress in executing the strategies established by our stakeholders. It is a unique tool, because for the first time this agency has been required to report back to the residents on how we have pursued the vision they laid out for us in the plan.

What we have found is that in the first two years of the Master Plan's implementation the Commission has – remarkably – achieved most of the goals that were established to measure general progress during that period. To illustrate this, the first section of this report, titled Goal Achievement in 2004 and 2005, provides a set of 28 goals that constitute a selection of our initiatives and uses them to monitor overall Plan execution. Where those goals have been achieved, new goals have been established to mark future progress and will be reviewed in future reports.

In the second section, titled Actions to Support the Meadowlands Master Plan's Mandates in 2004 and 2005, we have presented a comprehensive review of all actions taken by the agency to implement the Master Plan.

A broad range of studies and analysis are currently underway by the Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute, Institute for Meadowlands Studies, and other allied groups. When complete, this data will provide the agency with the fine-grained analysis that will make future reports more comprehensive and quantitative in their conclusions. Other actions will be taken within the organization to better measure the effectiveness of the agency and fine tune the NJMC's ability to serve the residents of this District. This is a living process in which we will take every opportunity to continually improve.

At my direction, this report will be taken into the Meadowlands communities for a series of three listening sessions which will help us better understand the needs of residents and our stakeholders. The results will be reported back to the Board within one month and incorporated in the annual Strategic Review, due for submission in January 2007.

It is great to be back, and I look forward to the great things we will be doing together to see that this Master Plan and this region reach the full potential, unimaginable only a few years before, that is now possible.

> Susan Base Levin Susan Bass Levin

Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs Chair, New Jersey Meadowlands Commission



Goal Achievement In 2004 and 2005

Goals Exceeded: Goals Achieved:	5
	18
Goals Nearly Achieved:	3
Goals Not Achieved:	2

GOAL ACHIEVEMENT IN 2004 and 2005

Natural Environment (Exceeded 3, Achieved 1)

Strategy I goal: Newly acquire or preserve 900 acres of open space by 2006. Begin habitat enhancement process for 1,000 acres.

Status: Exceeded

987 acres acquired or preserved.

1,027 acres have commenced habitat enhancement process.

New goal: In two years, acquire or preserve 300 acres in most need of protection. In two years conclude habitat enhancement for 100 acres.

Strategy II goal: Plan or open two new waterside public parks.

Status: Exceeded

Five new waterside parks planned or opened:

Allocated \$3 million for the design, engineering and construction of River Barge Park and Marina and the Richard P. Kane Natural Area.

Mill Creek Point Park opened in Secaucus in October 2004.

Secaucus High School Marsh is in the habitat enhancement process and design work has commenced on an elevated pedestrian walkway.

400-acre Kearny Green Space Initiative commenced with the objective of a 100-acre hilltop active recreation area and 300-acre restored wetlands with passive recreation opportunities.

Erie Landfill was set aside for upland habitat and passive recreation to augment the DeKorte Park/ Harrier Meadow park complex.

New goal: Complete and open two new waterside parks in two years.

Strategy III goal: Conduct District-wide air quality study. Find and implement technologies to lessen potential negative impacts on District air quality.

Status: Achieved

Finished second year of threeyear District air study.

Began reduction of NJMC



vehicle fleet by 20 percent and conversion of the balance to fuel efficient vehicles.

Initiated work on potential 5 mega-watt photovoltaic solar array to begin a potential Meadowlands-wide solar power industry to reduce fossil fuel emissions.

New goal: In two years implement solar energy policy for Meadowlands District, develop and implement clean air policies based on conclusions of District air study.

Strategy IV goal: Reach out to 30,000 participants annually through Meadowlands Environment Center (MEC). Expand MEC capacity for outreach. Increase participation in eco-tourism.

Status: Exceeded

36,366 participants in MEC activities on average between 2004 and 2005.

Construction of new MEC building approved to include five classrooms and an observatory.

Pontoon boat tour participants:

2003: 637 2004: 657 2005: 821

New goal: Increase the number of participants in MEC activities by 25 percent and host a groundbreaking for a new MEC building. Launch first Field School activities with Lyndhurst, integrating high school students with MEC facilities and course work. Add a second school district to Field School program. Maintain or exceed current number of eco-tourists taking NJMC boat tours.

Economic Development (Exceeded 1, Achieved 4)



Strategy I goal: Establish convention and visitors bureau for the Meadowlands. Develop a tourism guide to the Meadowlands.

Status: Achieved

Established Meadowlands Liberty Convention and Visitors Bureau and allocated \$725,000 to it for five years.

Commissioned grassroots-based "Hackensack Meadowlands Birding, Wildlife Trail, and Places to Fish Program" eco-tourism guide. **New goal:** Develop market analysis of potential tourism in the Meadowlands District, release Hackensack Meadowlands Birding, Wildlife Trail, and Places to Fish Program and monitor effectiveness.

Strategy II goal: Identify new, begin redevelopment process for, or foster activity on brownfield and grayfield sites for redevelopment within seven of the 14 Meadowlands municipalities.

Status: Exceeded

Carlstadt: Request for qualifications (RFQ)issued for Paterson Plank Road Redevelopment Area (brownfield/grayfield).

East Rutherford: RFQ issued for Paterson Plank Road Redevelopment Area (brownfield/grayfield).

Jersey City: Lewis Avenue assessed for redevelopment (grayfield).

Kearny: Koppers Coke assessed for redevelopment

(grayfield/brownfield), Bi-county Golf Course announced (brownfield).

Lyndhurst: Avalon Bay begun(grayfield), Meadowlands Golf Course Redevelopment Project commenced (brownfield).

North Arlington: Bi-county Golf Course announced (brownfield), Meadowlands Golf Course Redevelopment Project commenced (brownfield).

Rutherford: Meadowlands Golf Course Redevelopment Project commenced (brownfield).

Secaucus: Secaucus Transit Village initiated (grayfield/brownfield).

New goal: Encourage active redevelopment and construction in all eight municipalities within targeted brownfield/grayfield sites. Specifically this would require the sites in Carlstadt, East Rutherford, and Jersey City to move to active redevelopment.

Strategy III goal: Establish jobs opportunity center.

Status: Achieved

Created the Meadowlands
Employment Opportunity Center.

New goal: Develop process to quantify
job creation and produce measurable
increase.

Strategy IV goal: Commence green building strategy in the Meadowlands District and upgrade NJMC operations to become more environmentally friendly.

Status: Achieved

Hosted first Green Building Summit.

Initiated work on 5 mega-watt 30-acre photovoltaic solar array.

Allocated \$700,000 for upgrade of NJMC facilities to more environmentally friendly standards.

New goal: Create recycling park within District or renewable energy zone.



Strategy V goal: Find potential incentive areas where an expedited application and review process can be created. **Status:** Achieved

Proposed new land use rules creating incentives and an expedited process for green building construction in the Meadowlands District.

New Goal: Develop a process for developers to track status of their applications, and develop an in-house system for staff to monitor the speed and progress of applications.

Transportation (Achieved 6)

Strategy I goal: Work with state and local transportation authorities to establish a transportation plan through 2030.

Status: Achieved

Prepared Meadowlands Mobility 2030 plan as a cooperative product of the NJMC, NJTPA, NJDOT, NJ Transit, NJ Turnpike Authority, Bergen and Hudson counties, Meadowlink Transportation Management Association and the 14 constituent municipalities of the Meadowlands District.

New Goal: Implement Transportation Planning District as authorized by the state legislature.

Strategy II goal: Identify a location to encourage active redevelopment which will integrate targeted development with better transportation options, such as a transit village.

Status: Achieved

Approved redevelopment plan for 145-acre portion of Secaucus, directly adjacent to Secaucus Junction rail station, for a pedestrian-friendly transit village.

Requested transit village designation and allocated \$100,000 for a Secaucus Transit Village Redevelopment Area Traffic Study.

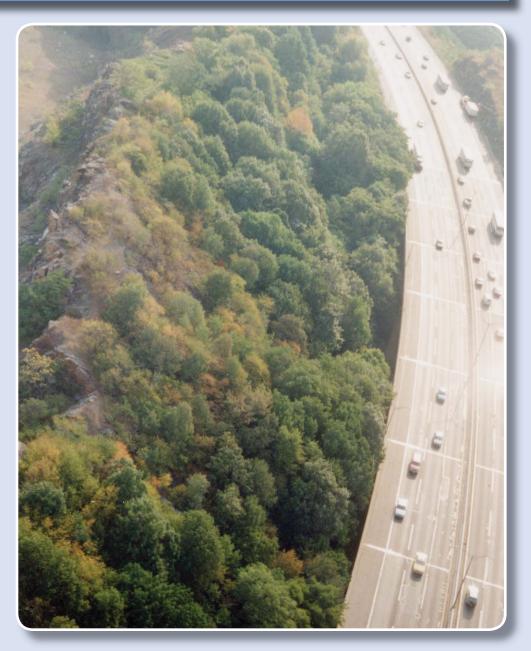
New Goal: Actively facilitate the successful implementation and build-out of the Secaucus Transit Village.

Strategy III goal: Identify critical transportation projects through the study of traffic patterns throughout the District. **Status:** Achieved

Flooding was identified as a major traffic inhibiter.

The Hackensack Meadowlands Flood Plain Management Plan utilized community and property owner input to identify the 16 worst flood prone areas. The plan includes impacts on local traffic.

A more cooperative relationship with the New Jersey Department of Transportation was established for the purposes of integrated transportation and flooding solutions at specific locations as well as redevelopment.



Four flood prone areas are currently being addressed through work plans.

New goal: Establish potential locations' for two new rail stations within the Meadowlands District. Identify and target first improvement project to receive Transportation Planning District funds. Investigate the possibility of facilitating expansion of light rail through the Meadowlands District and into northern Bergen County.

Strategy IV goal: Begin implementation of a car share program in the District.

Status: Achieved

Allocated \$310,000 to Meadowlink for the market feasibility study of a car share program, and for the technology needed to establish a car share program in the Meadowlands District.

Transportation (Continued)



New goal: Establish satellite parking sites to intercept vehicular traffic before it impacts the Meadowlands corridors. Facilitate implementation of car share. Establish car share base at Secaucus Junction rail station.

Strategy V goal: Create testing ground for fostering alternative forms of transportation. Mandate pedestrian trails in new development.

Status: Achieved

Secaucus Transit Village:

Targeted area for car sharing.

Developed pedestrian and bicycle friendly zoning requirements.

Mandated bicycle lockers for Secaucus Junction rail station.

Mandated links to walking trails of Secaucus Greenway and Sawmill Creek paddling trail.

Limited parking availability.

Trail development and connections:

Xanadu trail development required through Hearing Officer Report.

Meadowlands Golf Course Redevelopment Project passive recreation trails required.

Richard P. Kane Natural Area and River Barge Park trails mandated.

Secaucus High School Marsh trail connection with new Mill Creek Point Park mandated.

Kearny Green Space Initiative includes required trail connections.

Bi-County Golf Course/Harrier Meadow/Erie Upland Habitat/Richard Dekorte Park trail connections mandated.

Secaucus Greenway expanded.

New goal: Create inventory of existing trails, establish benchmarks for trail creation for next 10 years, and create a Meadowlands Trail Master Plan for achievement of a continuous trail system reaching from the northern boundary of the District to the southern boundary in 10 years.

Strategy VI goal: Identify and target a location for an intensive intermodal freight complex that has the capacity to handle international trade.

Status: Achieved

Identified Kopper's Coke site in Kearny as a potential intermodal freight rail complex and foreign trade zone. Initiated redevelopment zone process for the site.

New goal: Continue redevelopment zone process and begin process for seeking foreign trade zone status.

Housing (Exceeded 1, Nearly Achieved 2, Not Achieved 1)

Strategy I goal: Investigate areas of possible redevelopment and issue planning approval for residential units, to meet the build-out target for the Master Plan.

Status: Nearly Achieved

Investigated redevelopment

potential for:

Lewis Avenue in Jersey City.

Little Ferry waterfront.

Approved:

Rt. 3 East Redevelopment Plan.

Secaucus Transit Village

Redevelopment Plan.

Northern Node of Meadowlands Golf Course

Redevelopment Plan.

Avalon Bay

Redevelopment Plan.

Ninety-six percent of the Master Plan build-out target for residential units was given plan approval or subsequent forms of approval.

New goal: Support construction of 500 new residential units within five years.

Strategy II goal: Develop incentives to encourage the District's municipalities to bring substandard housing to standard condition. **Status:** Not Achieved (This may be achieved through municipal COAH certification).

Strategy III goal: Facilitate movement of at least half of the 14 Meadowlands District municipalities into the COAH process and assist them in generating individual affordable housing plans.

Status: Exceeded

Six municipalities have submitted an affordable housing plan to COAH.

Seven more are either working on affordable housing plans, or have commissioned a consultant to create an affordable housing plan.

New goal: Facilitate obtainment of COAH certification by all Meadowlands District municipalities within two years.

Strategy IV goal: Of housing given approvals, approve 2,000 active adult units in the Meadowlands District by 2006.

Status: Nearly Achieved

1,930 active adult units given plan approval or master plan approval.

New goal: Support construction of 200 new active adult residential units within five years.

Community Facilities

(Exceeded 1, Achieved 2, Nearly Achieved 1)

Strategy I goal: Complete development of Geographic Information Systems for six Meadowlands District municipalities by 2006.

Status: Nearly Achieved

Secaucus, Carlstadt, Moonachie, Teterboro, Ridgefield and East Rutherford are substantially complete or launched.

New goal: Complete GIS implementation in all 14 municipalities in three years.

Strategy II goal: Conduct District-wide air quality study, and facilitate establishment of a Transportation Planning District.

Status: Achieved

Recently finished second year of three-year air quality study of the District.

Allocated \$600,000 for development of a District Transportation plan.

New goal: Conclude air quality study and develop list of executable solutions to address issues raised by the study. Conclude District Transportation Plan and implement Transportation Planning District by supporting first transportation project. Establish Stormwater Management Utility.

Strategy III goal: Complete Hackensack Meadowlands Flood Plain Management Plan.

Status: Exceeded

Stakeholder-based Hackensack Meadowlands Flood Plain Management Plan utilized community and property owner input to identify the 16 worst flood prone areas.

Four sites are currently being addressed through work plans.

Commenced support of Bergen County plan for disaster preparedness. **New goal:** Complete development of a first generation flood warning system for local emergency management. In two years, expand number of top flood risk areas being significantly addressed to eight. Conclude Rutherford Tide Gate work in March 2006 and begin construction in July. Move Asia Place anti-flooding project toward completion.

Strategy IV goal: Build on GIS development by tailoring services to emergency responders.

Status: Achieved

Allocated \$25,000 to provide tablet laptops with access to NJMC maps and emergency management information from fire trucks and patrol cars in the field using pre-loaded applications.

Equipped Secaucus, Carlstadt, Moonachie, and Teterboro with GIS-ready laptops.

New goal: Complete issuance of laptop systems.

Historic Resources

(Not Achieved 1)

Strategy I goal: Increase the number of significant resources included in the NJMC Historic Preservation Inventory to 100.

Status: Not Achieved

44 significant resources included in the NJMC Historic Preservation Inventory.

MASTER PLAN INTIATIVES IN 2004 AND 2005

Natural Environment



Land Acquisition/Enhancement

- 1. Partnered with Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) to gain access to \$10 million PANYNJ fund for open space acquisition. *September 2004 RES.* 04-84
- 2. Received \$2,102,138 from National Oceanic and Atmosheric Administration for open space acquisition. This money was used for the acquisition of the LaVerghetta, Murray Hill, and Meadowlark properties. *October* 2004 October 2005
- 3. Allocated \$225,000 to the Meadowlands Conservation Trust for preservation and management of open space in the Meadowlands District. *September 2005 RES. 05-94*
- 4. Allocated \$645,000 for acquisition of 11-acres of uplands and wetlands along Berry's Creek in East Rutherford. *May 2004 RES. 04-38*
- 5. Allocated \$260,484 for acquisition of 25 acres of wetlands in North Bergen. *June 2005 RES. 05-72*
- 6. Allocated \$3 million for purchase of future site of River Barge Park in Carlstadt. *March* 2004 RES. 04-17
- 7. Allocated \$3 million for rehabilitation of 587-acre Richard P. Kane Natural Area (formerly the Empire Tract) for prime habitat and passive recreation. *September 2005 RES. 05-91, 05-92, 05-93*
- 8. Through the Xanadu Hearing Officers Report, mandated the developer must preserve of the entire 587-acre Empire Tract in Carlstad. *August 2004*
- 9. Approved \$53 million plan to restore the Kearny Marsh,

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- solve the threat of pollution from the adjacent Keegan Landfill, and create a 500-acre park complex. *January* 2005 RES. 05-02, 05-04, 05-05
- 10. Commenced design work for enhancement and restoration of 40-acre Secaucus High School Marsh. *February March 2005 RES. 05-35*
- 11. Distributed 400 shade trees to District municipalities. *April 2004 April 2005 RES. 04-19, 05-43*

Environmental Studies

- 1. Allocated \$65,000 science fellowship program with Rutgers University for the purposes of studying and preserving the fragile Meadowlands ecosystems. *February 2005 RES. 05-32*
- 2. Commenced 24-hour water quality monitoring system with instruments sending real time data to the agency's labs in Lyndhurst from throughout the District. September 2004
- 3. Allocated \$700,000 to conduct a three-year baseline air quality study for the District. *February November 2004 RES. 04-15*
- 4. Allocated \$176,000 for two-year survey of bird populations by New Jersey Audubon Society (NJAS). Preliminary findings expected at January 2006 NJMC meeting. *May 2004 RES. 04-33*.
- **5**. Allocated \$176,000 to study possible influences of pollution in Meadowlands on nesting bird populations. *December 2005 RES. 05-132*
- 6. Released four studies on Meadowlands fish population indicating that the ecosystem is healing, resulting in greater biodiversity. However, high levels of contaminants in the fish show that much work still remains. *March* 2005
- 7. Allocated \$240,000 to create master plan for conservation in the Meadowlands through the three-year production of a Hackensack Meadowlands Conservation Plan by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife. *July 2004 RES. 04-52*
- 8. Obtained \$385,700 US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) grant to study the ability of a special patented capping material to secure pollutants in the Kearny Marsh. *July 2004*
- 9. Allocated \$150,000 Cook College to develop technologies for the remediation of Kearny Marsh. *February 2005 RES. 05-33*
- 10. Allocated \$100,000 for analysis by Cook College or Rutgers University to evaluate the storm-water and ground water impacts to the Kearny Marsh from surrounding properties. *December 2005 RES. 05-136*

Flood Control

- 1. Allocated \$150,000 to Secaucus for the design and installation of flood prevention measures in the vicinity of Mill Ridge Road. *February 2004 RES. 04-11*
- 2. Conducted seminars for District municipalities on new stormwater management regulations. *February 2004*
- 3. Allocated \$200,000 to the Borough of Rutherford for the repair and maintenance work of the Rutherford Tidegates to help the municipality manage flooding on Route 17 and at nearby local businesses. *February August 2004 RES. 04-12, 04-65*
- 4. Reallocated of \$184,500 to North Arlington for Morton Place drainage problem. *August 2004 RES. 04-66*
- 5. Allocated \$75,000 to Moonachie to fix a flood problem in and around a pump station. *September 2004 RES.* 04-76
- 6. Allocated \$78,000 to Hudson County for purchase of two portable pumps to alleviate flooding problem near Penhorn Creek. *December 2004 RES. 04-102*
- 7. Allocated \$40,000 to Ridgefield for the Wolf Creek flood study. *December 2004 RES. 04-103*
- **8**. Allocated \$350,000 in stormwater management grants to each constituent municipality to aid each in preparing a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, as required by the NJ Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES). *February 2005 RES. 05-08*
- 9. Allocated \$350,000 to flood control for Polito Avenue in Lyndhurst. *October 2005 RES. 05-107*
- 10. Conducted seminars for municipalities on new storm water management regulations.

Recreation and Events

- 1. Opened first paddling trail in the Meadowlands with 2.5-mile Mill Creek Canoe Trail in Secaucus. *March* 2004
- 2. Opened 7.5-acre Mill Creek Point Park in Secaucus with canoe launch, fishing area, and promenade. *May October 2004 RES. 04-35*
- 3. Partnered with Bergen County to develop integrated recreational system of walkways to the Hackensack River. *February 2005 RES. 05-15*
- 4. Partnered with Hudson and Bergen counties to create a public bi-county golf course on the 1-E Landfill site. *October 2005 RES. 05-102, 05-103*

Meadowlands Environment Center (MEC)

- I. Implemented a video conferencing system to connect senior citizens to MEC programming through a \$462,000 National Science Foundation grant. *October 2004*
- 2. Allocated \$28,000 to establish a scholarship program for Meadowlands District high school students involved in Science and Science related fields. *February 2005 RES.* 05-26

- 3. Allocated \$236,000 for the initial design of an MEC expansion, including an observatory, laboratory and classrooms. This new facility will be built in compliance with green building standards. *February 2005 RES. 05-28*
- 4. Allocated \$25,000 for senior programming at the MEC. *February 2005 RES. 05-27*
- 5. Allocated \$80,000 to establish a new curriculum at the MEC to develop an Educational Resource Center promoting new strategies and technologies to increase participation by individuals with disabilities. *February 2005*
- 6. Established Field School at the Meadowlands Environment Center to allow total integration between MEC facilities and current courses at Meadowlands high schools. *November 2005 RES. 05-115*
- 7. Increased the number of educational programs at the Meadowlands Environment Center available for K-12 students, from 16 in 2002, to 28 in 2005. In addition, MEC had 69 students participate in summer day camps in 2004, which increased to 97 students participate in 2005.



Economic Development

Redevelopment / Job Creation

- 1. Established Institute for Meadowlands Studies at Rutgers University with an annual budget of \$100,000 to guide policymaking for rigorous socioeconomic analysis. *January 2004 RES. 04-04*
- 2. Approved creation of Route 3 East Redevelopment Plan. *February 2004 RES. 04-09*
- 3. Approved redevelopment plan for 145-acre portion of Secaucus, directly adjacent to Secaucus Junction rail station, for a pedestrian-friendly transit village with a potential 500-room hotel and conference center; up to 750,000

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- square feet of restaurants, boutiques, coffee shops, professional offices; and 1,850 residential units, including 800 active adult units. *April 2004*
- 4. Declared portions of Harrison Avenue in Kearny in need of redevelopment, and further investigations to be done to declare if further properties in area are also in need of redevelopment. June July 2004 RES. 04-43, 04-49
- 5. Commenced analysis of the area in and adjacent to Lewis Avenue in Jersey City to determine if the area is in need of redevelopment. *July 2004 RES. 04-50*
- 6. Commenced analysis of Little Ferry waterfront vicinity to determine if area is in need of redevelopment. October 2004 RES. 04-89
- 7. Partnered with Hudson County Improvement Authority to assist with the development of a comprehensive plan to identify potential future land uses for properties in and around the former Kopper's Coke site in Kearny. Site contains both grayfields and brownfields and has high potential for foreign trade which would have a synergy with nearby intermodal facilities in South Kearny. *December 2004 RES. 04-101*
- 8. Accepted a Brownfields Grant from the United State Environmental Protection Agency for \$200,000 for analysis of brownfields sites in the Meadowlands. *June 2005 RES. 05-63*
- 9. Allocated \$500,000 for the development of Meadowlands Employment Opportunity Center over five years through the Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce and relevant state and local agencies. *June 2005 RES. 05-59*
- 10. Commenced Paterson Plank Road redevelopment process. Issued RFP/RFQ for zone 1 and 2. September 2005
- 11. Requested Transit Village designation for the Secaucus Transit Village Redevelopment Area in the Town of Secaucus. *October 2005 RES. 05-104*
- 12. Received more than 1,400 development permit applications.
- 13. Completed of \$41,331,037.73 worth of construction in 2004, and \$79,679,954 worth of construction in 2005.
- 14. Constructed of 330,287 sq. feet of commercial construction, and 907,821 sq. feet of industrial construction completed January 2004 through December 2005.

Energy Efficiency

1. Approved measures to promote sustainable design and building practices in the Meadowlands District through developer outreach and upgrade of NJMC facilities. *April 2004 RES. 04-28*

- 2. Allocated \$700,000 for upgrade of NJMC facilities to more environmentally friendly standards in effort to lead the District in better environmental practices for redevelopment projects and building management. *August 2005 RES. 05-84*
- 3. Commenced reduction of NJMC vehicle fleet by 20 percent, and will convert the balance of the fleet to fuel efficient vehicles. *October 2005 RES. 05-110*
- 4. Hosted first statewide Green Building Summit, created Sustainable Meadowlands Resource Institute, and announced the potential for expedited application process and discount fees for environmentally-friendly redevelopment projects. *November 2005*
- 5. Allocated \$100,000 to create Sustainable Meadowlands Resource Institute (SMRI) to provide a leadership role to implement this program on sustainable/green building design. *November 2005 RES. 05-116*
- **6**. Initiated work on potential 5 mega-watt 30-acre photovoltaic solar array, which may pave the way for a Meadowlands-wide solar power industry. *December 2005 RES.* 05-134

Arts

- 1. Allocated \$100,000 to commission a sculpture to anchor a Meadowlands Sculpture Garden. *April 2004 RES.* 04-29
- 2. Established a Meadowlands Arts Advisory Board, comprised of members from each of the 14 Meadowland's Municipalities. *July 2004 RES. 04-47*
- 3. Allocated \$30,000 to promote artistic initiatives within the Meadowlands District for community arts grants. *February 2005 RES. 05-30*

Ecotourism

- 1. Funded and organized District-wide Riverfest event in Secaucus. *June* 2004
- 2. Allocated \$725,000 for the creation and management of a Meadowlands Liberty Convention and Visitors Bureau over five years. *June 2004*
- 3. Allocated \$194,000 to the New Jersey Audobon Society for a District-wide eco-tourism guide, titled "Hackensack Meadowlands Birding, Wildlife Trail, and Places to Fish Program." *June 2004 RES. 04-40*
- 4. Allocated \$20,000 for a grant supporting the Meadow-lands Festival of Birding. *June 2005 RES. 05-71*
- 5. Allocated an additional \$67,000 to complete the New Jersey Meadowlands Birding, Wildlife and Place to Fish guide. *December 2005 RES. 05-133*

Transportation

District-Wide Transportation Plan

- 1. Prepared Meadowlands Mobility 2030 plan as a cooperative product of the NJMC, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, New Jersey Department of Transportation, NJ Transit, New Jersey Turnpike Authority, Bergen and Hudson Counties, the 14 constituent municipalities of the Meadowlands Districts, and other stakeholder groups. Serves as the transportation improvement plan for the NJMC Master Plan. *January June 2004 RES. 04-03, 04-41*
- 2. Approved redevelopment plan for 145-acre portion of Secaucus, directly adjacent to Secaucus Junction rail station. Plans call for a pedestrian-friendly transit village with bike lanes and trails connected to the rail station, bike lockers, and walking trails eventually extending along the Hackensack River from the North Bergen border to Jersey City. *April* 2004
- 3. Worked with State Legislature for the creation of a Transportation Planning District legislation. Bill was signed into law May 2005.
- 4. Allocated \$600,000 for development of a District Transportation Plan. This plan will implement impact fees to fund transportation system upgrades on a multiagency level. *September-November 2005 RES. 05-118*, *RES. 05-97*
- 5. Allocated \$310,000 to Meadowlink for market feasibility study and implementation of a car share program within the Meadowlands District. *June 2005 RES. 05-69*

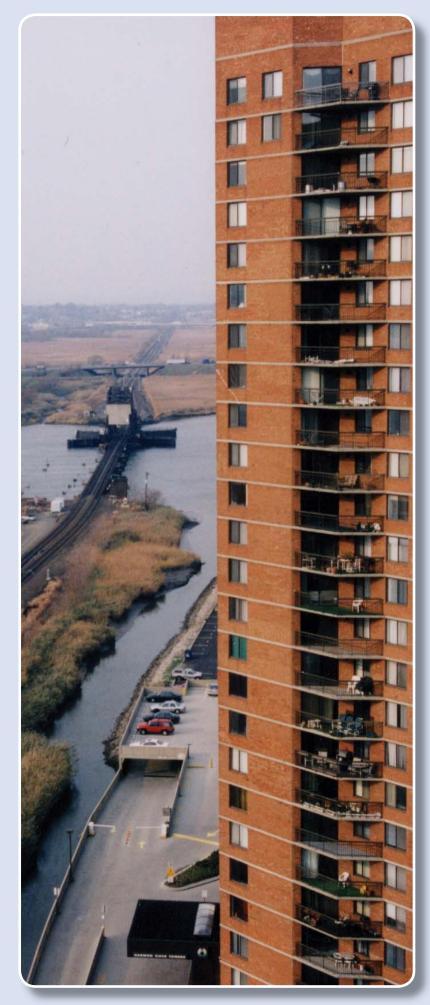
Other Transportation Studies

- 1. Allocated \$200,000 for a transportation study for Secaucus to monitor existing and future traffic patterns. *April 2004 RES. 04-26*
- 2. Allocated \$100,000 for a Secaucus Transit Village Redevelopment Area Traffic Study. *November 2005 RES. 05-119*

Housing

Housing Creation

- 1. Approved redevelopment plan for 145-acre portion of Secaucus, directly adjacent to Secaucus Junction rail station, for a pedestrian-friendly transit village with 1,850 residential units, including 800 active adult units. *April* 2004
- 2. Launched Phase I of the Meadowlands Golf Course Redevelopment Project to remediate 785 acres of landfills and blighted open space into a golf resort destination with a potential for 1,130 active-adult apartments and condominiums, 850 open-market



apartments and condominiums, and 550-600 luxury apartments. *May 2004*

3. Constructed 154 residential units from January 2004 through December 2005.

Affordable Housing

- 1. Allocated \$350,000 in grants and technical assistance for constituent municipalities to prepare fair share housing plans and seek substantive certification by the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH).
- 2. Proposed amending zoning regulations to require full affordable housing obligations to be met by new development.
- 3. Facilitated six of the 14 Meadowlands municipalities in obtaining of COAH certification. Thirteen of the 14 Meadowlands municipalities have either developed, or are in the process of developing, an Affordable Housing plan.
- 4. Proposed tax sharing credits to municipalities with new affordable housing units.
- **5**. Required 89 affordable housing units to be included in Northern Node portion of landfill-to-golf redevelopment project in Rutherford. *June 2005*

Community Facilities

Resources

- 1. Purchased a \$157,185 JetVac pipeline television inspection system to be shared by the Meadowlands Municipalities in the equipment pool. *August 2004 RES. 04-62*
- 2. Launched Meadowlands Area Grants for Natural and Economic Transformation (MAGNET), which includes the Municipal Assistance Program (MAP). The MAP program includes \$13.24 million worth of support for Meadowlands municipalities for tax relief and appropriate community services and facilities. *December* 2004

Technology

- 1. Launched Geographic Information System (GIS) in Secaucus, creating new full service geographic data base for municipal services and decision making. This technology has also been provided to Carlstadt, Moonachie, and Teterboro. *January* 2004
- 2. Allocated \$150,000 to establish a municipal technology pilot program. *April 2004 RES. 04-24*
- 3. Helped establish a pilot program for Meadowlands municipalities to test ability of local governments to submit budgets electronically to New Jersey Department of Community Affairs to streamline government services. *June* 2005 RES. 05-64



Emergency Management

1. Allocated \$25,000 to provide a tablet laptop to each Meadowlands municipality, with access to NJMC maps and emergency management information from fire trucks and patrol cars in the field using the internet.

February - September 2005 RES. 05-34

- 2. Graduated 45 NJMC employees from FEMA's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program, which allows these employees to support regional emergency management teams, as well as the State Police's Emergency Management unit.
- 3. Allocated \$80,000 for the development and deployment of an early flood warning system that will provide crucial information to the different offices of emergency management to avoid loss of lives and damage to District properties. October 2005 RES. 05-105
- 4. Concluded work on Hackensack Meadowlands Flood Plain Management Plan to allow NJMC and federal resources to be directed to the worst flooding areas in the District. *October* 2005
- 5. Commenced support of Bergen County plan for disaster preparedness and better pursuit of federal funding. *November 2005 RES. 05-123*

Historic Resources

1. As of 2004, 44 significant resources included in the NJMC Historic Preservation inventory.







New Jersey Meadowlands Commission